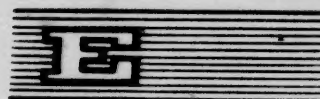




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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Eleventh Meeting of the Technical
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Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
5 - 12 May 1990

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fifth session of the Commission/
sixteenth meeting of the Conference
of Ministers

Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
15 - 19 May 1990

PROPOSAL FOR UPDATING THE 1990-1991 PROGRAMME SUBJECT

INTRODUCTION

1. In reviewing the programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1990-1991 at the twenty-fourth session of the Commission/fifteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, the Conference of Ministers made a number of suggestions and proposals for strengthening the programme. The Conference also, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to incorporate the Commission's proposals in his programme budget submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), called upon the African members of CPC to support the proposals at its twenty-ninth session, and urged that Committee to consider the proposals favourably.¹
2. The purpose of this paper is two-fold. The first purpose is to report on the follow-up on the recommendations and decisions of the Conference on the programme of work and priorities. The second purpose is to seek the endorsement of the Conference for new additional activities which can be carried out as a result of new resources from extrabudgetary sources which became available after the programme budget had been approved. The proposals for these additional activities are contained in annex II to this document.
3. With regard to the suggestions and proposals made by the Conference of Ministers for strengthening the programme when it considered it at its fifteenth meeting, the secretariat took steps immediately after the meeting to translate them into the standard list of outputs of the United Nations which, together with corrections of inconsistencies and omissions in the original proposals, were incorporated in document E/AC.51/1989/CRP.5 and submitted to CPC for its consideration together with the original proposals. Document E/AC.51/1989/CRP.5 is reproduced herewith as annex I to this paper.
4. As it is, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Economic and Social Council, the relevant committees of the General Assembly, and the General Assembly itself, had no difficulty in either endorsing or approving the programme as revised with the additional proposals based on the comments and suggestions of the Ministers. The African members of CPC which first considered the programme, as well as the totality of the membership of that Committee, lent their fullest support to the programme as requested by the Ministers. The Committee in particular stressed the importance of the Commission's programmes for

¹ E/ECA/CM.15/33.

African development and noted the significant improvement in programme formulation at ECA. However, many delegations expressed concern at the low rate of growth of 0.3 per cent in the resources allocated to the Commission and some expressed the view that a reduction in the high vacancy rate in the Commission could compensate for the lack of resources. Accordingly, the Committee stressed the need for the Secretary-General to provide ECA with sufficient resources commensurate with the priority assigned by the General Assembly to the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development and recommended that the Secretary-General should continue his efforts to eliminate the high vacancy rate in ECA which caused a negative impact on the programmes of ECA.²

5. Questions were raised regarding the determination of priorities and the Committee "emphasized the need to place greater emphasis on a number of programmes, namely food and agriculture, development issues and policies, environment, industrial development, population, social development and humanitarian affairs and transport, communications and tourism in Africa."³

6. Finally, CPC took note of the secretariat's efforts to maintain the support posts for PADIS and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (AIEDP).⁴

7. For its part, the General Assembly in approving the proposed programme budget for the Commission, at its forty-fourth session, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in respect of the programme and "requests the Secretary-General to review the adequacy of resources for the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, and to intensify his efforts to reduce the currently high vacancy rate in the Economic Commission for Africa, including the preparation of a specific plan to that end, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session".⁵

² See report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, A/44/15, paras. 181 and 183.

³ Report of CPC, para. 189.

⁴ Report of CPC, para. 182.

⁵ A.C.5/44/L.25, Section VIII, para. 7.

8. The General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General "to review the translation and interpretation services for all official languages in the Economic Commission for Africa, including the question of the retention of trained personnel and the possibility of restoration of the Training Centre, and to report on the results of this review to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session." The Assembly further decided that the post proposed by the Secretary-General for Chief of Automation Services in the Commission should be an established post in the programme budget for 1990-1991 and that the post of evaluation officer should be restored on a non-recurrent basis, subject to renewal.⁷

⁴ Ibid., para. 2.

⁷ Ibid., para. 4.

E/AC.51/1989/CRP.5
26 May 1989

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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
Twenty-ninth session
8 May-2 June 1989
Agenda item 4 (a)

ANNEX I

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET
FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991

Section 13. Economic Commission for Africa

Note by the Secretariat

The following programmes of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 in respect of section 13, ECA, are revised as indicated below. These revisions take into consideration comments on the proposed programme of work of ECA by the ECA Conference of Ministers.

- B. Programmes of activity
- 3. Development issues and policies in Africa
- 4. Environment in Africa
- 8. Natural resources in Africa
- 11. Public administration and finance in Africa
- 12. Science and technology in Africa
- 13. Social development and humanitarian affairs in Africa

Programme 3: Development issues and policies in Africa

Subprogramme 4. Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation

Programme element 4.2

(a) Lusaka-based MULPOC

Output (i) Add (f) evaluation of progress in economic integration in Eastern and Southern Africa 10 years after the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA)

(c) Niamey-based MULPOC

Output (i) (b) Delete "in the subregion" and replace with "likely to be traded within the subregion".

(c) After "industrial projects" insert "in the fields of fertilizers, pesticides, agricultural equipment and machinery".

(d) After "West Africa" insert "in 1990 and proposed for 1991-1993".

(e) In the beginning insert "proposals for improving".

(g) After "West Africa" add "in the fields of metallurgicals, chemicals and petrochemicals".

Output (ii) After "IGOs" insert "with a view to strengthening the co-ordination and harmonization of their activities in the field of agriculture, industrial development, trade and finance, energy, transport, information and training". At the end add "the Follow-up Evaluation Committee of the Association of West Africa IGOs (third quarter 1990)."

Output (iii) Delete the entire output and replace with "Report to the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC on the formulation of a master plan for afforestation in West Africa, including the creation of a "green belt" bordering the Sahara, on the one hand, and afforestation programmes in coastal countries, on the other (third quarter, 1991)".

Add the following outputs:

- (v) Reports of the Council of Ministers of the Niamey-based MULPOC on: (a) a study on the impact of the structural adjustment programmes on employment and other aspects of the socio-economic environment in West Africa (first quarter, 1991); (b)

the creation of protected forest protection areas in West Africa (first quarter, 1990) and the political and socio-cultural factors in the economic integration process in West Africa (first quarter, 1991).

Add the following Operational Activities:

"Seminar on the role of medium and small-scale enterprises in West Africa in collaboration with regional and subregional financing institutions".

Subprogramme 5. Education and training for development

Programme element 5.1. Reorientation of formal and non-formal education policies, programmes and practices for socio-economic development

Output (i) under technical qualifications. Add (i) "Curriculum development and the process of confidence-building in Africa (second quarter, 1990)".

Output (ii) delete (ii) "Survey of non-formal education programmes for development (fourth quarter, 1990)".

Subprogramme 6. Manpower and employment planning and policies

Programme element 6.1. Policies and programmes for the enhancement of employment and productivity

Operational Activities

After "planners and economists on" delete "employment planning and productivity" and insert "semi-structured surveys for employment generation in the informal sector and small-scale industries".

Programme element 6.3. Institution-building for co-operation, co-ordination and harmonization of human resources policies and programmes

Output (i) (a) After "reviewing in Africa and delete "revitalizing African institutions of higher learning for long-term development (first quarter, 1991)" and replace with "the role of institutions of higher learning in the promotion of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP)".

Programme 4. Environment in Africa

Subprogramme 1. Development of environmental capabilities, including conservation of resources and pollution control

Programme element 1.1. Development of environmental capabilities, including the development of manpower capabilities

Add Output (iii) Technical publications: Two issues of ECA Environment Newsletter (1990, 1991)".

Operational activities: In the beginning ~~delete~~ Technical support for establishment of and insert Substantive and technical support for .

Programme element 1.2. Environmental assessment and management relating to the impact of the development and utilization of natural resources and pollution control

~~Delete~~ Output (iii).

Old output (iv) becomes new output (iii).

New output (iv) reads as follows: Substantive servicing of the sixth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee of Human Settlements and Environment (first quarter, 1991).

~~Delete~~ programme element 1.2. Promotion of environmental awareness.

Programme 5. Natural resources in Africa

Subprogramme 1. Mineral resources

Programme element 1.2. Inventory of African mineral resources, research and information on development, financing and utilization of mineral resources in Africa

~~Delete~~ output (b) and insert (b) "Techno-economic study on the development of small-scale mining in the economic community of the countries of the Great Lakes (CEPGL). (first quarter, 1991)".

Programme 9: Energy and development in Africa

Subprogramme 1. Integration of energy policies into overall socio-economic development and economic growth policies

Programme element 1.3. Development of new and renewable energy resources in African countries

Output (i) Replace "fourth quarter 1990" with "first quarter, 1991".

Output (ii) should read "Report to the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy on the development of such sources of energy in Africa (first quarter, 1991)".

Programme 11: Public administration and finance in Africa

Subprogramme 2. Development of budgetary and taxation systems

Programme element 2.1. Improvement in budgetary and financial management in government

Output: Technical publications: (a) delete existing text and replace with "Restructuring of public expenditure for the successful implementation of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Development (AAF-SAP) (third quarter, 1990)".

Programme 12: Science and technology in Africa

Subprogramme 2. Development of manpower for science and technology

Programme element 2.1. Mobilization and effective utilization of local institutions and capabilities

Operational activities: (a) should read "training seminar for government officials on management of science and technology with special emphasis on new and emerging technologies and their application to development (second quarter, 1990)".

Programme 13. Social development and humanitarian affairs in Africa

Subprogramme 3. Integration of women in development

Programme element 3.1. Participation of women in development

Output (ii) (d) replace existing text with "the situation of African women in agriculture and industrial transformation in the context of AFR in Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Transformation and Recovery (AAF-SAP) (second quarter, 1991)".

ANNEX II

ACTIVITIES BEING PROPOSED AS A RESULT OF ADDITIONAL EXTRABUDGETARY RESOURCES THAT BECAME AVAILABLE AFTER THE APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAMME BUDGET

Programme: Transport, Communications and Tourism in Africa

Subprogramme: Communications

Programme element 2.1: Development of telecommunication services in Africa

Proposed additions:

Add new output 1.1: Consultative services on the expansion of economic aspects of Expansion and Modernization of Telecommunication Networks for English- and French-speaking countries. One (first) quarter 1970. One fourth quarter 1970, 1971, 1972.

Operational activities: Two advisory service missions to member States and ECOWAS on projects in the field of telecommunications development. One second quarter 1970, one fourth quarter 1970.

Reasons for proposed additions: These consultative and operational activities are now being absorbed within the programme budget of the programme budget for the biennium 1970-71. The secretariat received no contribution from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany when the contract of the bilateral relationship, but at a time when the surviving work was extended. The contract of the expert has now been extended from 1 January to 31 December 1971. The output and operational activities proposed 1970, therefore, are withdrawn from 1971.

Programme: Industrial Development in Africa

Subprogramme: Policy, Development, Finance and Institutions in Africa

Programme element 1.1: Industrial policies and planning

Add new output 1.1 as follows: Studies in service of the industrial sector meetings of the preparatory group of the United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa, fourth quarter 1970, first quarter 1971.

Revoke existing output 1.1 and 1.2. All outputs 1970, 1971, 1972, respectively.

Reasons for the proposed additions:

These outputs are being proposed for inclusion in the programme budget as a result of additional resources provided to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session for activities relating to the preparations for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

Programme: Development Issues and Policies in Africa

Subprogramme 4: Policies, institutions and technical assistance for economic co-operation

Delete outputs 4.2 (a), (b), (c) and (d) and add new outputs as follows renumbering the outputs as appropriate:

- (i) Report to the Council of Ministers on agricultural pricing and marketing of foodstuffs within the subregion (first quarter, 1991);
- (iii) Report to the Council of Ministers on the possibility of establishing a mechanism to collect data on raw materials market (first quarter, 1991);
- (iv) Report to the Council of Ministers on an evaluation of minor industries existing in the subregion and the possibilities of subregional co-operation (first quarter, 1991);
- (v) Report to the Council of Ministers on possibilities for co-operative arrangements among higher educational institutions in the subregion (first quarter, 1991).

Reasons for the proposals:

The outputs proposed for deletions were programmed in 1984-1985 and were already being delivered during the 1980-1989 programme budget period. The resources allocated to them in the 1990-1991 programme budget would now be used to prepare the new outputs proposed.

Programme: Natural resources in Africa

Programme 3: Cartography and remote sensing

Programme element 3.2: Development of a cartographic data base, and remote sensing and its application in Africa

Add new output (i) as follows: Reports to the Governing Councils of two ECA-sponsored regional centres for remote sensing on assessment of the performance and impact of personnel trained at the centres in the implementation of their national programmes and projects (fourth 1991).

Renumber existing output as output (ii) and add new (d) and (e) as follows:

(d) Cartographic bulletin (fourth quarter 1990, fourth quarter 1991);

(e) Atlas of the cartographic inventory for Africa (second quarter 1991).

Reasons for the additions

The approved work programme and budget (1990-1991) were prepared on the basis of the two existing professional posts in the subprogramme. An additional post has since become available from extrabudgetary sources.